



LANGUAGE LINKS

Vol.2 No.3 January 24, 2011

Language Links is an internal publication of the Devawongse Varopakarn Institute of Foreign Affairs, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 962 Krung Kasem Road, Bangkok 10100. <http://www.mfa.go.th/web/2791.php>

LEARNING STRATEGIES

Listening and Speaking Tips !

LISTENING and **SPEAKING** are performance skills. Students in foreign language classes often have difficulty hearing and speaking because they are anxious about making mistakes. Give yourself permission to be spontaneous and to take risks.

LISTENING SKILLS TIPS:



- Frequent the language lab. Read the exercises in your book first; then listen and read together; then listen without looking at the print. Say aloud or write what you hear.
- Participate silently in class when others are called on to speak. Focus on the task; don't worry about how you'll do.
- If you feel nervous, relax yourself physically by taking a couple of slow, deep breaths. When called on, pause, relax, and give yourself time to respond.
- Listen while a friend dictates to you and write what you hear.
- Check for accuracy.
- Practice: join language clubs, watch foreign TV, and listen to foreign radio.



SPEAKING SKILLS TIPS:



- Study out loud! Mimic the sounds of the language. Don't mumble. Although most people feel embarrassed making strange sounds, the language will soon feel more familiar to you.
- When called on in class, say something even if it's wrong: you'll learn from it. If you need a moment to think, repeat the question parrot fashion. If you don't know the answer, say in your foreign language, "I don't know" or "help!"
- Practice with a foreign student who wants your help to learn English, or with another class member.

Adapted from: www.utexas.edu/student/utlc/lrnres/handouts/1705.html

Usana

Culture Corner

Customs and Etiquette in Spain: 15 Things Every Visitor Should Know



The followings are what you need to know about customs and etiquette in Spain.



Having Lunch and Dinner



- Many of the misunderstandings for visitors to Spain concern the dinner table. The Spanish eat **no earlier than 1:30 PM for lunch**, preferably after 2, and **not before 9 PM for dinner**. Dining out on the weekend can begin at 10 PM or even later. In areas with heavy tourist traffic, some restaurants open a bit earlier.
- Dining is not the only part of Spanish life with a bizarre timetable. Outside of major cities most shops shut in the afternoons from 2 to 5, when shopkeepers go home to eat the main meal of the day, and perhaps snooze for a while. It's best to work this into your plans on an "if you can't beat them, join them" basis, taking a quick siesta (afternoon rest) after lunch in preparation for a long night out on the town.



- One of the major drawbacks of drinking and eating in Spanish bars and restaurants used to be the amount of cigarette smoke. Anti-smoking laws introduced in 2006, however, now require bars and clubs with 100 square meters of space or more to provide a non-smoking section; in most of the better restaurants, smoking is not allowed at all.



Doing Business

- Spanish office hours can be confusing to the uninitiated. Some offices stay open more or less continuously from 9 to 3, with a very short lunch break. Others open in the morning, break up the day with a long lunch break of two to three hours, then reopen at 4 or 5 until 7 or 8.
- Spaniards enjoy a certain notoriety for their lack of punctuality, but this has changed dramatically in recent years, and you are expected to show up for meetings on time.
- Smart dress is the norm for business meetings in Spain.



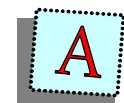
Resource: http://www.fodors.com/news/story_3900.html

Piyaporn

Here's the Answer...



What can I say if I would like someone to do something?



You can use 'Will, Would, Could, Can, Would you mind...?' to ask someone to do something for you as follows:

1. We use *could* and *would* when we ask someone to do something.

We usually use *will* and *can* for requests that are informal.

We use *could* and *would* to make the request less demanding.

2. We can also use *Would you mind + gerund* to make a polite request. A negative answer to this question means you agree to the person's request. People sometimes say 'sure' and this is also a sign of agreement.

3. **Please** can be used to make the request more polite. Notice the different word order on the right.

4. We normally expect the answer to be yes when we ask polite requests. When we **can't** say *yes* we usually apologize and give a reason.

* **Don't use *could* or *would* when answering a polite question**, this is considered impolite or strange.



Examples:



Boss: *Could/would* you type this letter for me?

Friend: *Can/will* you help me with my homework?



Examples:

A: *Would you mind looking* after my dog on Monday?

B: Not at all / sure (I'd be glad to).



Examples:

Could you **please** turn up the TV?

or

Could you turn up the TV **please**?

Examples:

A: *Could* you **pick up** my suit at the dry cleaners?

B: I'm sorry, I can't. I have a meeting after work.

A: I'm broke, *would* you **lend** me \$30 ?

B: Of course (Don't say Yes, I would)

<http://www.englishintaiwan.com/teaching/reference-material/lesson-plans>

Napassawan

FUN WITH ENGLISH

No.3

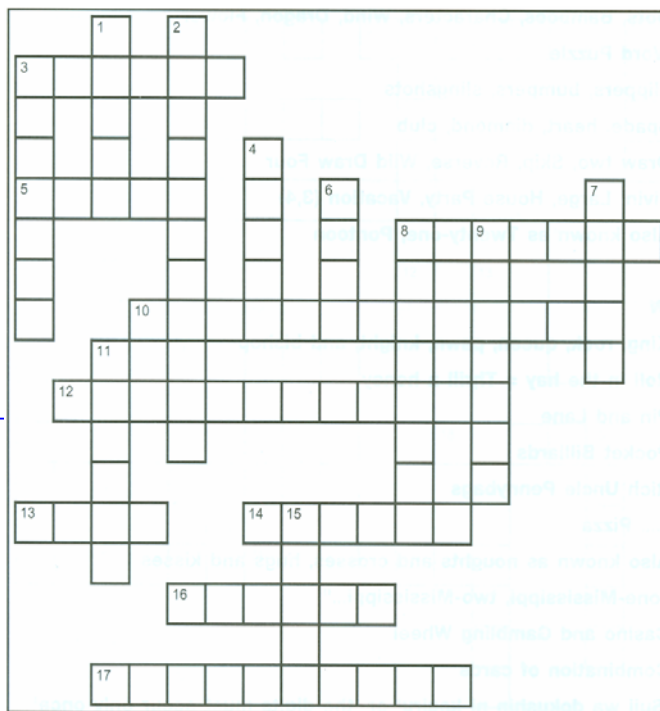
National Animal

Across

- 3 Canada
5 Bolivia
8 Cambodia
10 North Korea
12 Vietnam
13 Sweden, Singapore
14 United Kingdom
16 Wales – Red _____
17 Austria

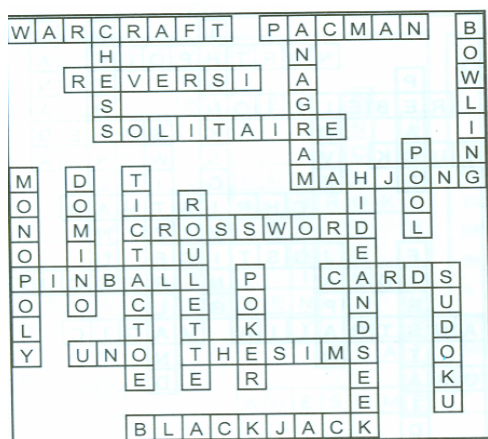
Down

- 1 China ____ Giant _____
2 Bangladesh, India
3 Spain
4 Japan
6 New Zealand
7 Botswana
8 Australia
9 Scotland
11 Iceland
15 Egypt – Saladin's _____



From : Crossword Puzzles Book

Answers no.2



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